

0327-0759-0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
NAOKO TSUJI ET AL : EXAMINER: WEBER, JON. P.
SERIAL NO: 09/220,691 :
FILED: DECEMBER 28, 1998 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1651
FOR: METHOD OF INHIBITING HAIR :
GROWTH

PETITION TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT

UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.181

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Notice of Abandonment dated April 29, 2002, Applicants hereby request withdrawal of the holding of abandonment for the reasons as follow.

The Notice of Abandonment of April 29, 2002, indicates that the reason for abandonment is Applicants' failure to timely pay the Issue Fee.

A Notice of Allowance in the above-identified application was mailed November 1, 2001. Applicants filed a Request for Continued Examination together with a Preliminary Amendment and an Information Disclosure Statement on February 1, 2002 (a copy of the filing and date-stamped filing receipt evidencing submission of these items is attached herewith). Applicants' Request for Continued Examination was filed prior to the payment of the Issue Fee which was otherwise due February 1, 2002. The Request for Continued

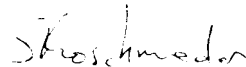
Examination in this case was timely filed. Since an RCE was timely filed there was no need to pay the Issue Fee.

Applicants submit that the Notice of Abandonment was incorrectly issued in view of Applicants' filing of a Request for Continued Examination on February 1, 2002.

Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the holding of abandonment and return of the case to the Examiner for consideration of the RCE filed February 1, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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